

In the Claims

Kindly amend the claims as follows:

1. – 16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently Amended) A coupling for a pipe comprising:

a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material having a central bore, an outer surface, and an inner surface tapered substantially along its entire length having a tapered portion, and an external ledge adjoining said outer and inner surfaces;

[[a]] one or more ~~retainer~~ retaining members each comprising a retaining surface that is tapered substantially along its entire length for retaining said a pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed into the housing; and

a continuous layer of a relatively deformable material, distinct from the retaining members, disposed on ~~retainer~~ on at least a part of the tapered portion of the inner surface, the external ledge, of the central bore and at least a part of the outer surface of said housing such that said continuous layer 1) deforms along the tapered on the tapered portion of the inner surface of the central bore against an outside of said any pipe within a size range that is inserted into the housing to form a diametrical sealing engagement and 2) has a part formed on said outer surface on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member and is continuous between said inner and outer surfaces.

18. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said continuous layer on said inner surface provides [[a]] additional tapering along said inner surface.

19. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said retaining members are ~~retainer~~ is formed integrally with said housing.

20. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said retaining members each retainer includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage projections a projection on said a pipe that is inserted into the housing.

21. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 20 [[5]], ~~wherein said pipe has a corrugated external surface, and~~ wherein each of said catch members is adapted to engage between said corrugations of a corrugated pipe.

22. (Cancelled).

23. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said continuous layer includes a part that provides a manual gripping region on said outer surface.

24. (Cancelled).

25. (Currently Amended) The coupling according to Claim 17 [[1]], wherein said deformable material is an elastomeric material.

26. (Currently amended) A coupling for connecting one end of a corrugated pipe to a cooperating member comprising:

a rigid housing of tubular shape construction having a central bore, an outer surface, an inner surface tapered substantially along its entire length having a tapered portion and two resilient spring catches on opposite sides that engage between corrugations on an outside of ~~said a pipe~~ within a size range when the pipe is pushed within at least a portion of the central bore of the coupling; and

a continuous layer of a deformable material, distinct from said resilient spring catches and continuously joined bonded with at least the tapered ~~portion of the inside inner~~ surface and at least a portion of the outer surface of said housing to form an internal, tapering sealing surface which deforms against and forms a seal with the cooperating member, and wherein said continuous layer

includes a part formed on said outer surface ~~outside~~ of said housing on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member.

27. (Previously Presented) An assembly comprising a corrugated pipe and a coupling comprising:

a housing of a relatively rigid plastics material, said housing having a central bore, an outer surface and an inner surface tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion~~; retaining means retaining said pipe within said housing when the pipe is pushed within the central bore coupling; and

a layer of a relatively deformable material distinct from the retaining means and molded onto at least a part of both the tapered ~~portion of the~~ inner surface and the outer surface of said housing, wherein said layer provides additional tapering ~~a tapering surface~~ on said inner surface to allow deformation ~~which deforms~~ against an outside surface diameter of a range of sizes of said pipe in said central bore, and thereby forms a diametrical seal with the outside surface of said pipe, wherein said layer includes a part formed on said outer surface on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member, and wherein said layer is continuous between said inner and outer surfaces.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a coupling comprising:

injecting a first material of a relatively hard plastics material to form a housing of said coupling with a central bore, an outer surface, an inner surface that is tapered substantially along its entire length ~~having a tapered portion~~ and an integral retainer; and

subsequently injecting a second, softer, deformable material to form a continuous layer on said harder material on the tapered ~~portion of the~~ inner surface and at least a portion of the outer surface of said housing, wherein said deformable material is distinct from said integral retainer, and

wherein said layer forms a further tapered ~~a tapering~~ surface on said inner surface ~~inside~~ of said housing and surrounds said integral retainer and deforms into sealing engagement with an outside of a pipe when the pipe is pushed into the housing, wherein said layer includes a part formed on said outer surface ~~outside~~ of said housing on an external ledge of said housing to provide a seal with a cooperating member, and wherein said layer is continuous between said inner ~~inside~~ and said outer surfaces ~~outside~~ of said housing.

29. (Currently Amended) The method ~~coupling~~ according to claim 28 ~~[[1]]~~, wherein said retainer includes at least one resilient catch member to engage a projection on said pipe.

30. (Currently Amended) The assembly ~~coupling~~ according to claim 27 ~~[[3]]~~, wherein said retaining means ~~retainer~~ includes at least one resilient catch member adapted to engage a projection on said pipe.

31. (Cancelled).

32. (Previously Presented) The coupling according to Claim 26, wherein said layer includes a part that provides a manual gripping region on said outer surface.